BOOM! BOX™

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FENCE™

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FENCE™

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BOOM! BOX™

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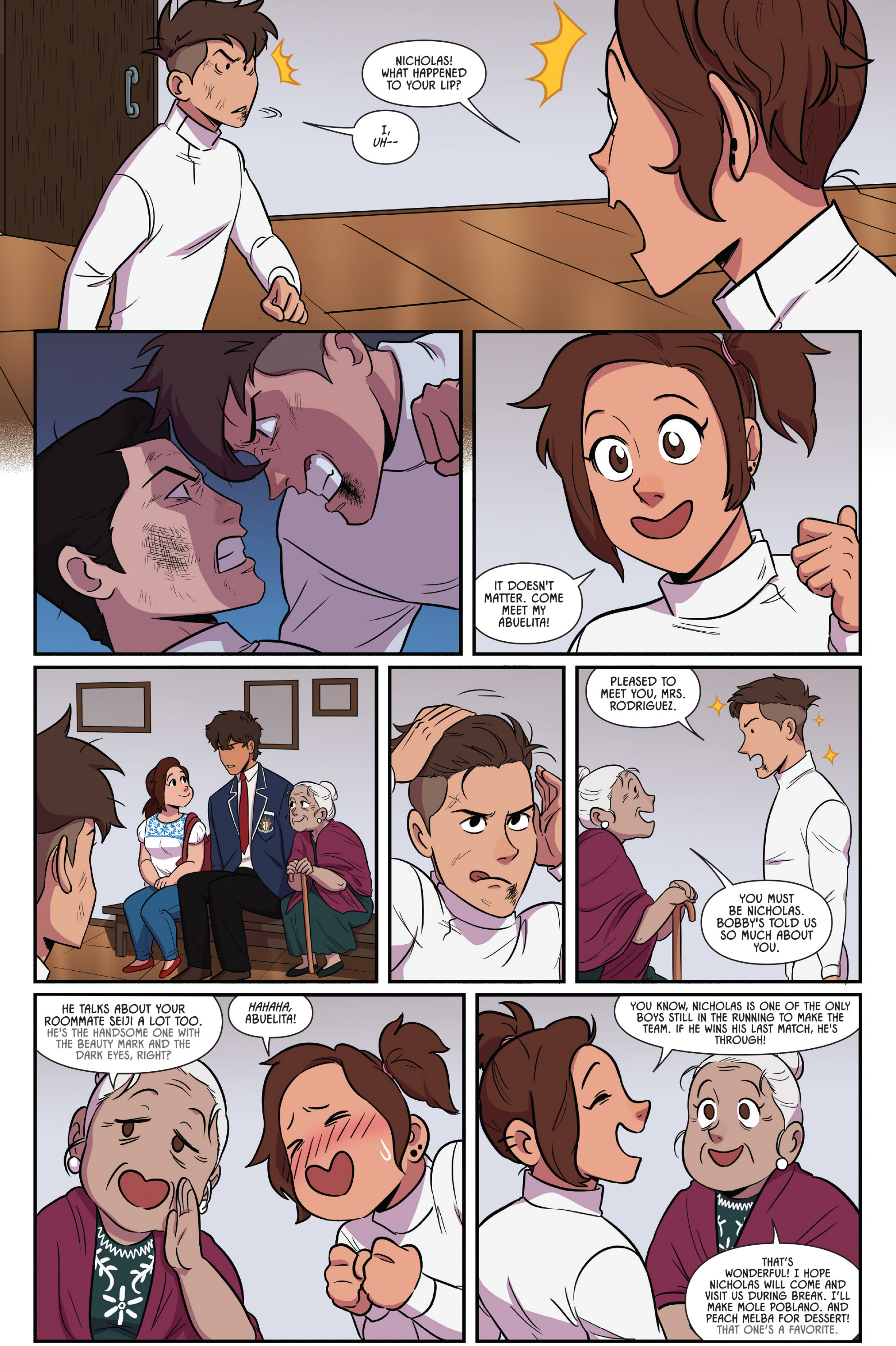
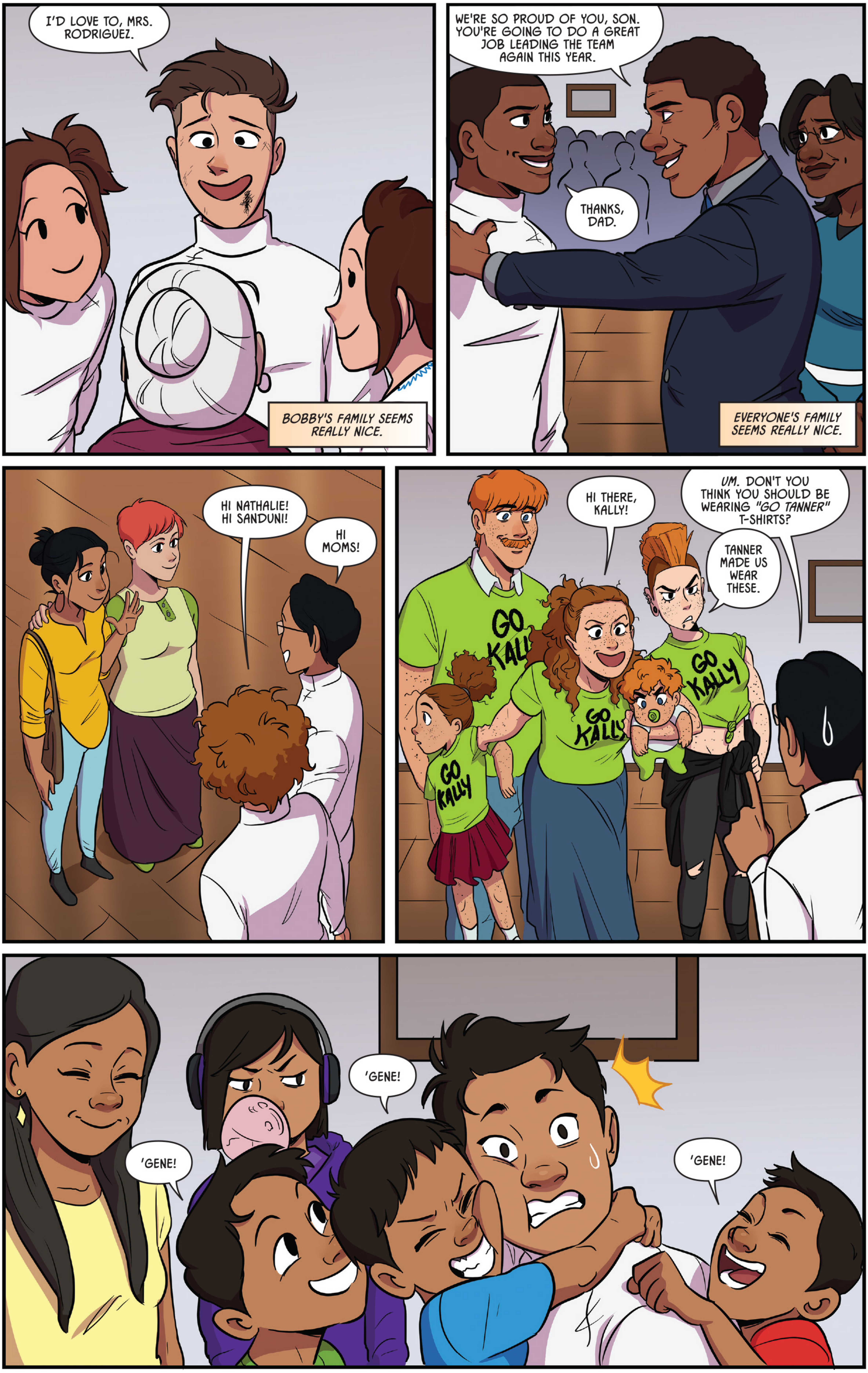
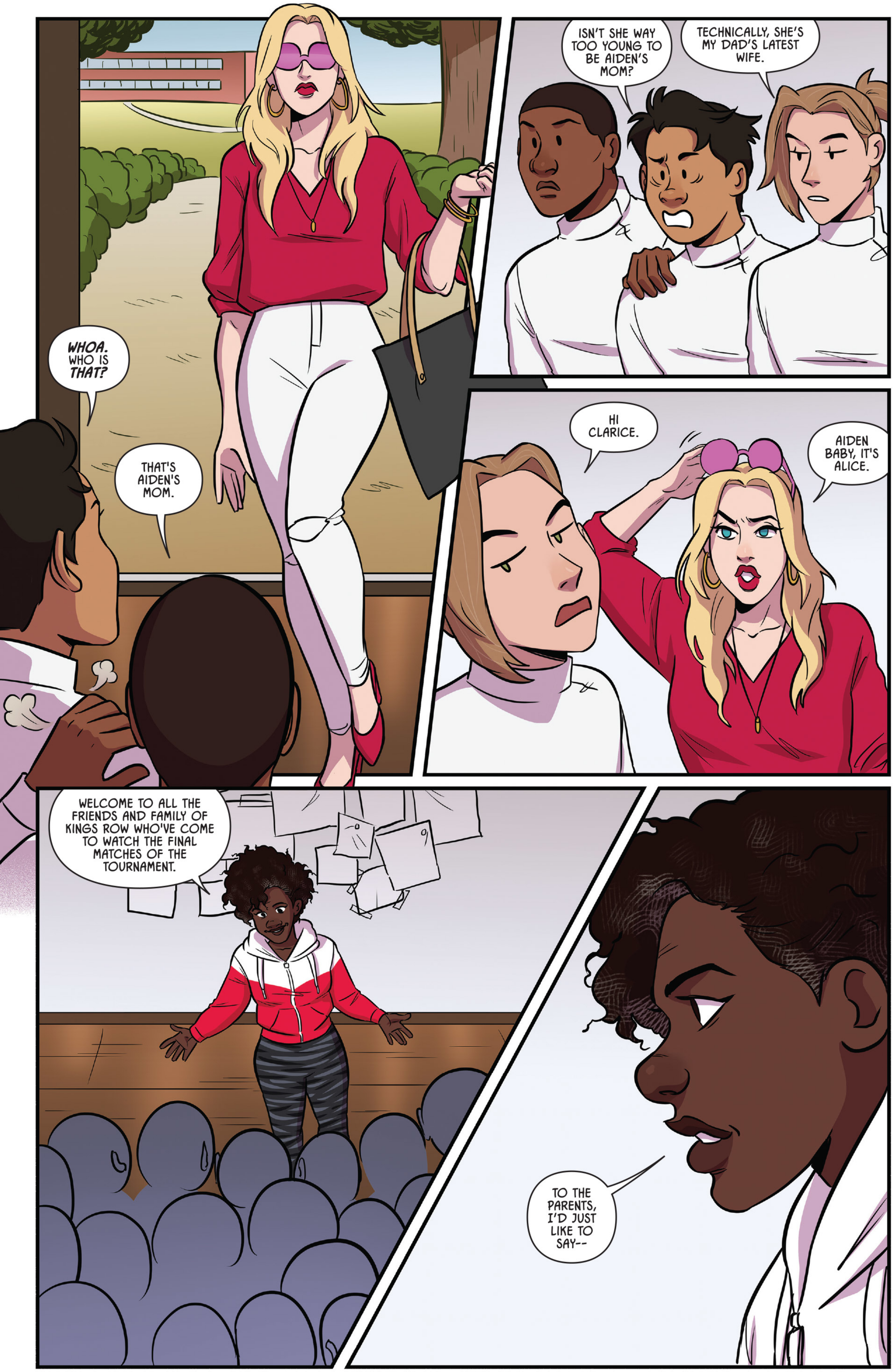
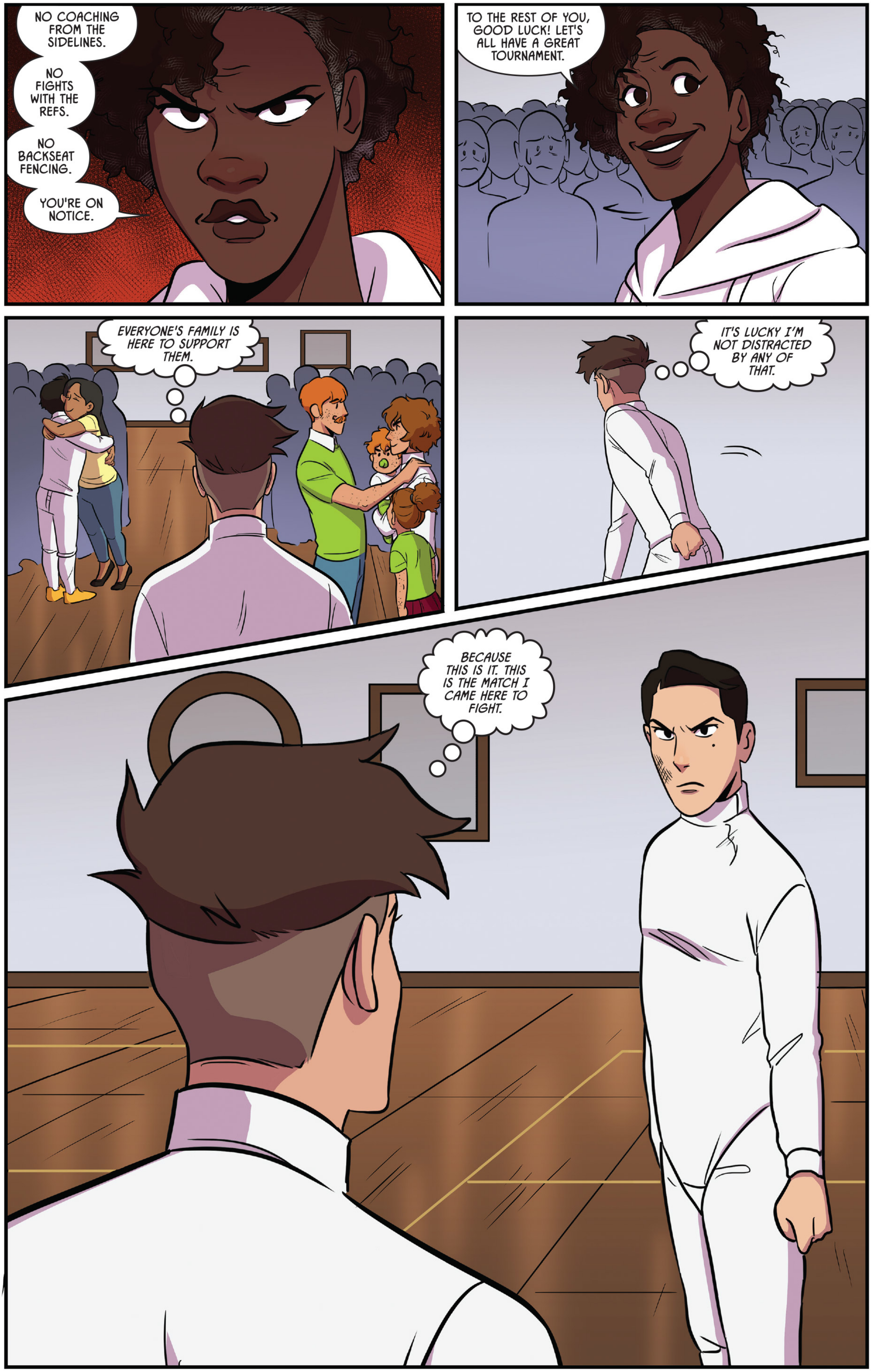
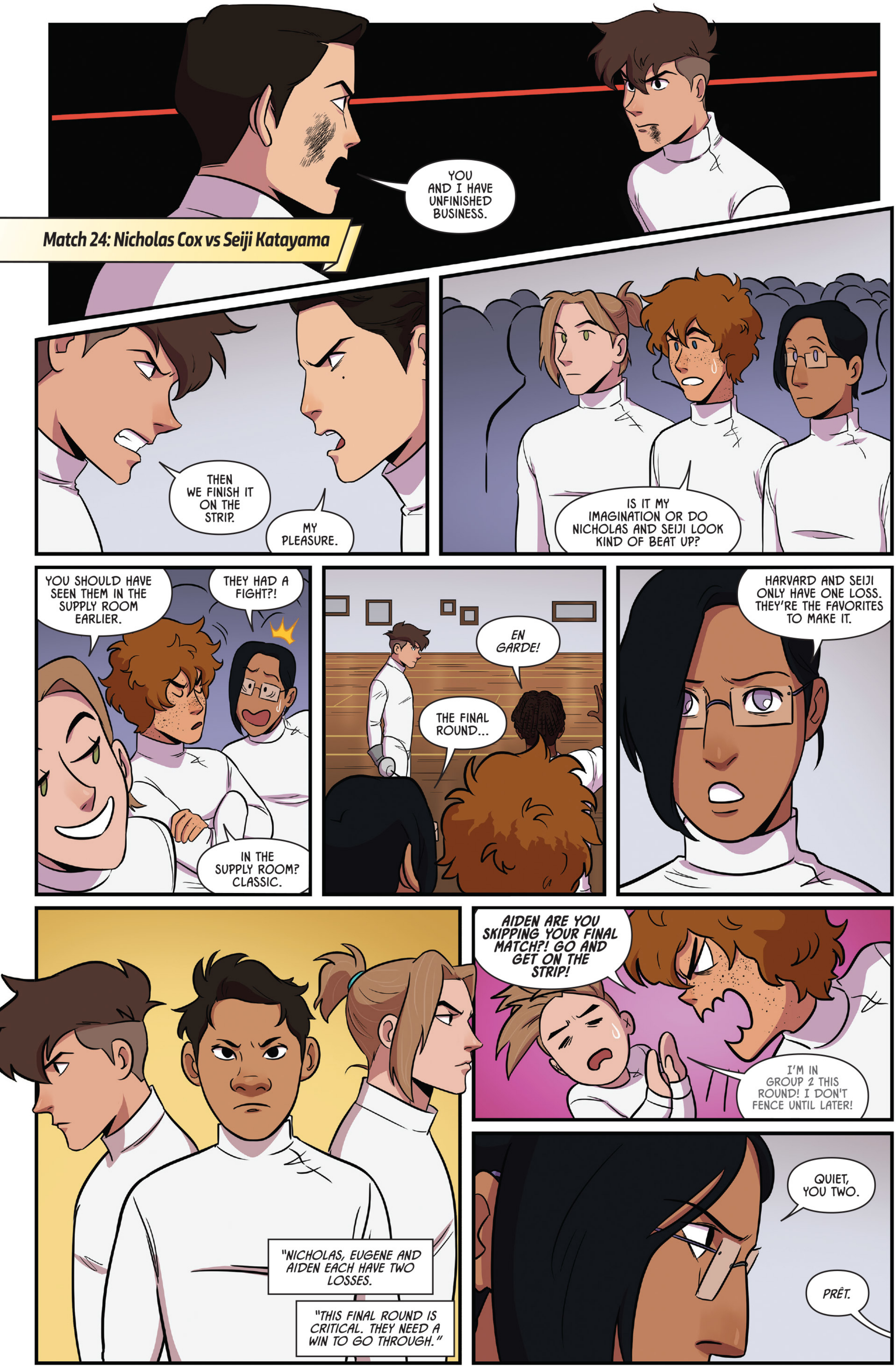
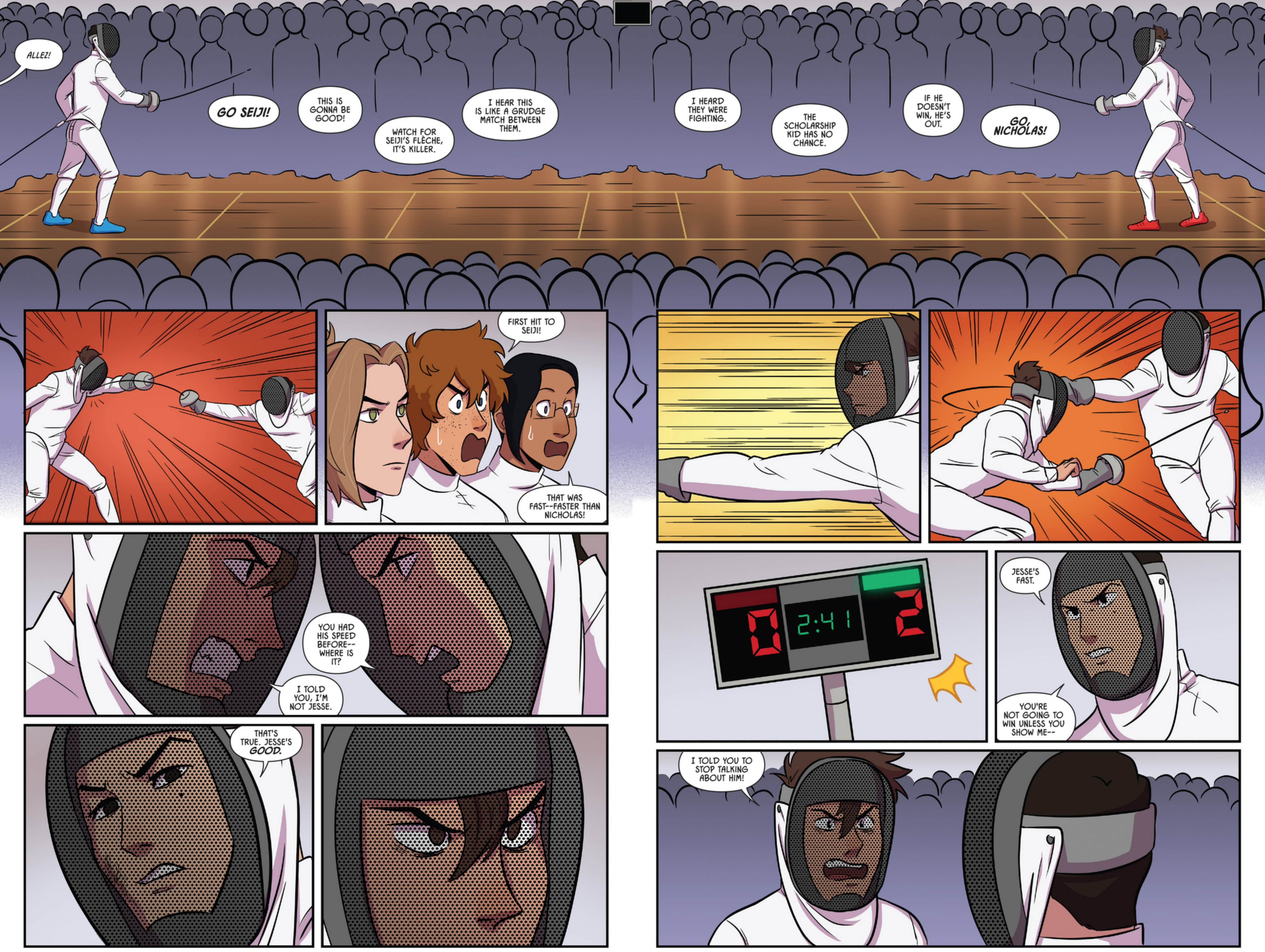

NICHOLAS! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR LIP?
I, UH--
IT DOESN'T MATTER. COME MEET MY ABUELITA!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, MRS. RODRIGUEZ.
YOU MUST BE NICHOLAS. BOBBY'S TOLD US SO MUCH ABOUT YOU.
HE TALKS ABOUT YOUR ROOMMATE SEIJI A LOT TOO. HE'S THE HANDSOME ONE WITH THE BEAUTY MARK AND THE DARK EYES, RIGHT?
HAHAHA, ABUELITA!
YOU KNOW, NICHOLAS IS ONE OF THE ONLY BOYS STILL IN THE RUNNING TO MAKE THE TEAM. IF HE WINS HIS LAST MATCH, HE'S THROUGH!
THAT'S WONDERFUL! I HOPE NICHOLAS WILL COME AND VISIT US DURING BREAK. I'LL MAKE MOLE POBLANO. AND PEACH MELBA FOR DESSERT! THAT ONE'S A FAVORITE.

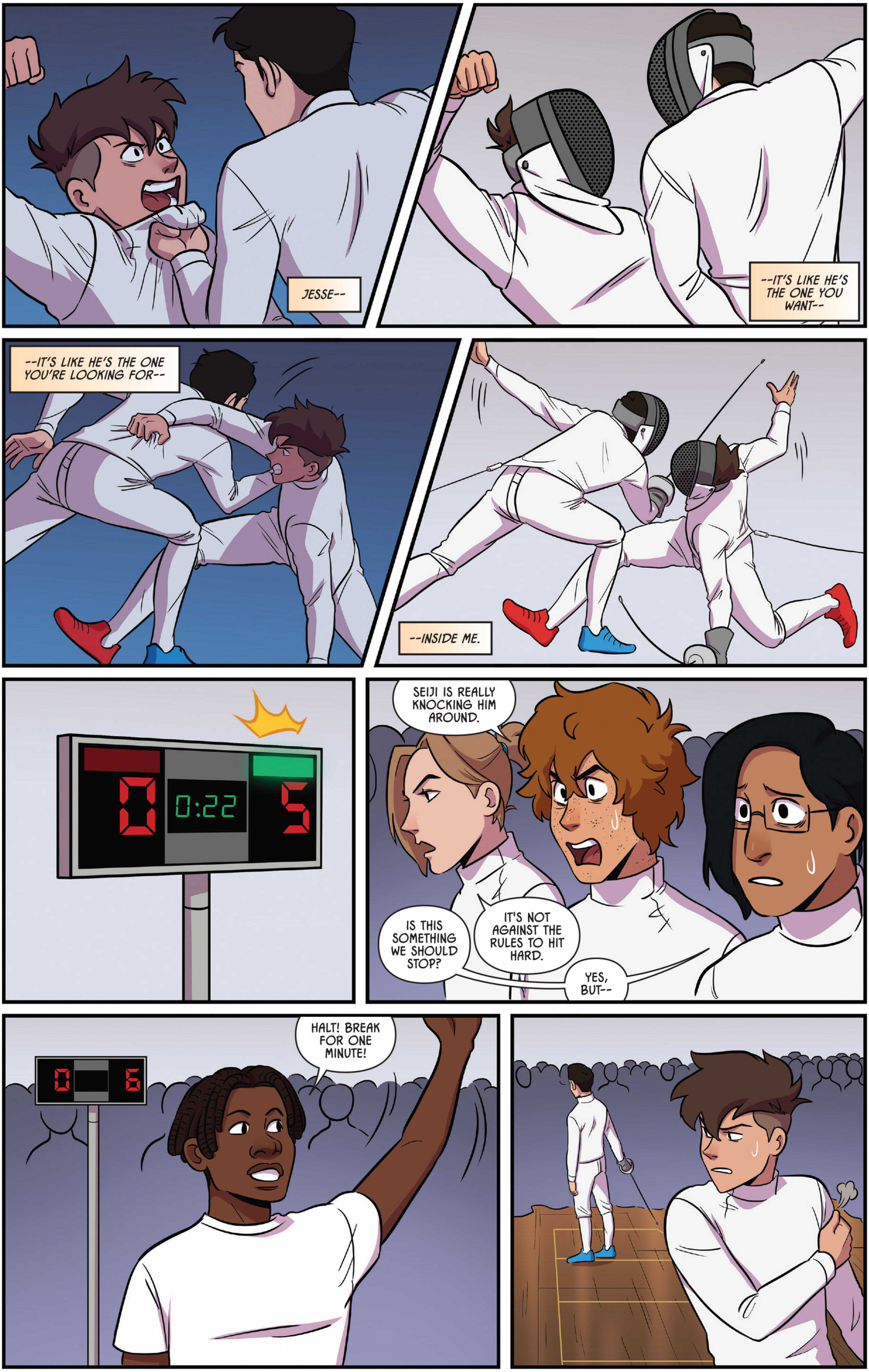

I'D LOVE TO, MRS. RODRIGUEZ.
BOBBY'S FAMILY SEEMS REALLY NICE.
WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU, SON. YOU'RE GOING TO DO A GREAT JOB LEADING THE TEAM AGAIN THIS YEAR.
THANKS, DAD.
EVERYONE'S FAMILY SEEMS REALLY NICE.
HI NATHALIE! HI SANDUNI!
HI MOMS!
HI THERE, KALLY!
UM. DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD BE WEARING "GO TANNER" T-SHIRTS?
TANNER MADE US WEAR THESE.
GO KALLY
GO KALLY
GO KALLY
GO KALLY
'GENE!
'GENE!
'GENE!

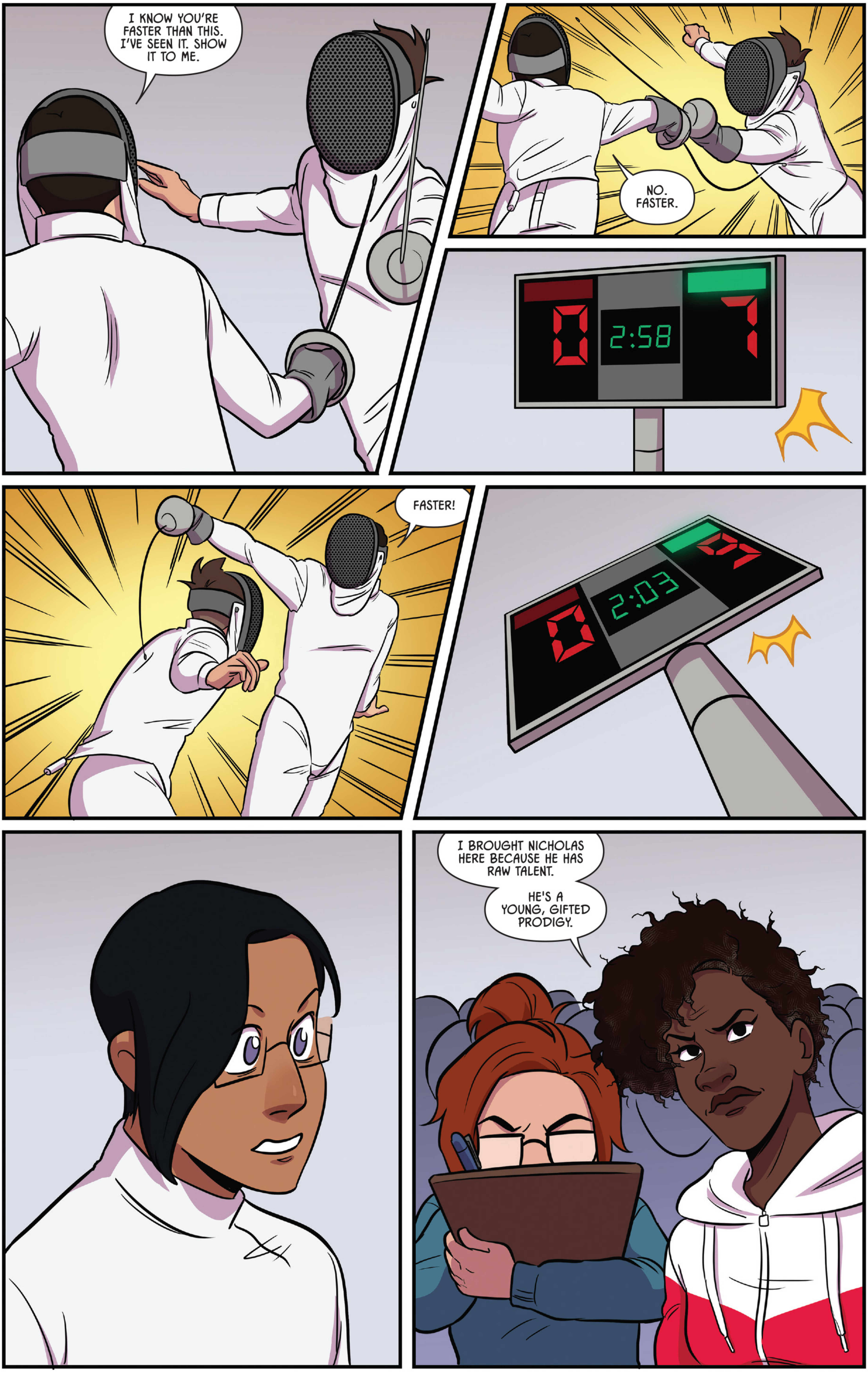

WHOA. WHO IS *THAT?*
THAT'S AIDEN'S MOM.
ISN'T SHE WAY TOO YOUNG TO BE AIDEN'S MOM?
TECHNICALLY, SHE'S MY DAD'S LATEST WIFE.
HI CLARICE.
AIDEN BABY, IT'S ALICE.
WELCOME TO ALL THE FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF KINGS ROW WHO'VE COME TO WATCH THE FINAL MATCHES OF THE TOURNAMENT.
TO THE PARENTS, I'D JUST LIKE TO SAY--

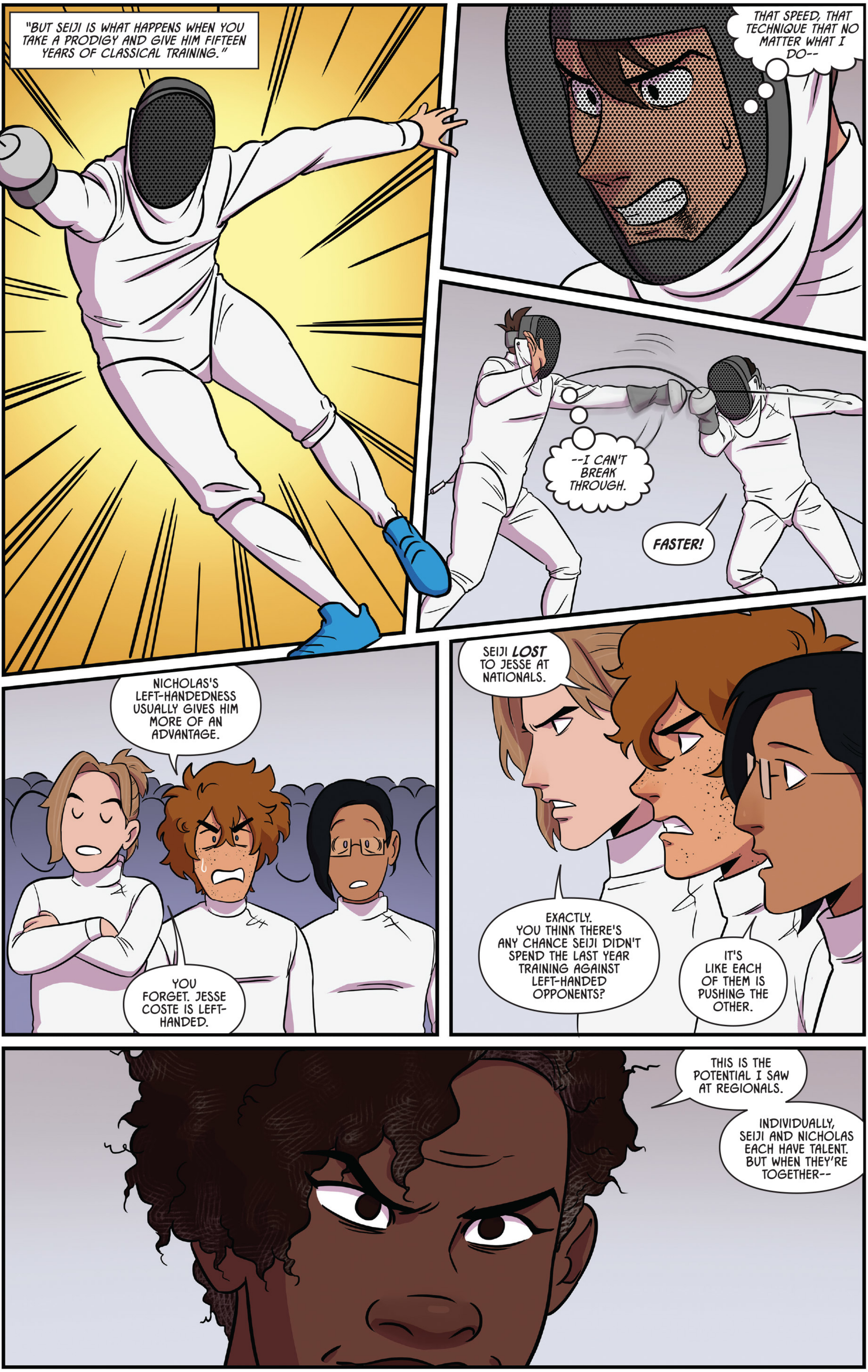

NO COACHING FROM THE SIDELINES.
NO FIGHTS WITH THE REFS.
NO BACKSEAT FENCING.
YOU'RE ON NOTICE.
TO THE REST OF YOU, GOOD LUCK! LET'S ALL HAVE A GREAT TOURNAMENT.
EVERYONE'S FAMILY IS HERE TO SUPPORT THEM.
IT'S LUCKY I'M NOT DISTRACTED BY ANY OF THAT.
BECAUSE THIS IS IT. THIS IS THE MATCH I CAME HERE TO FIGHT.

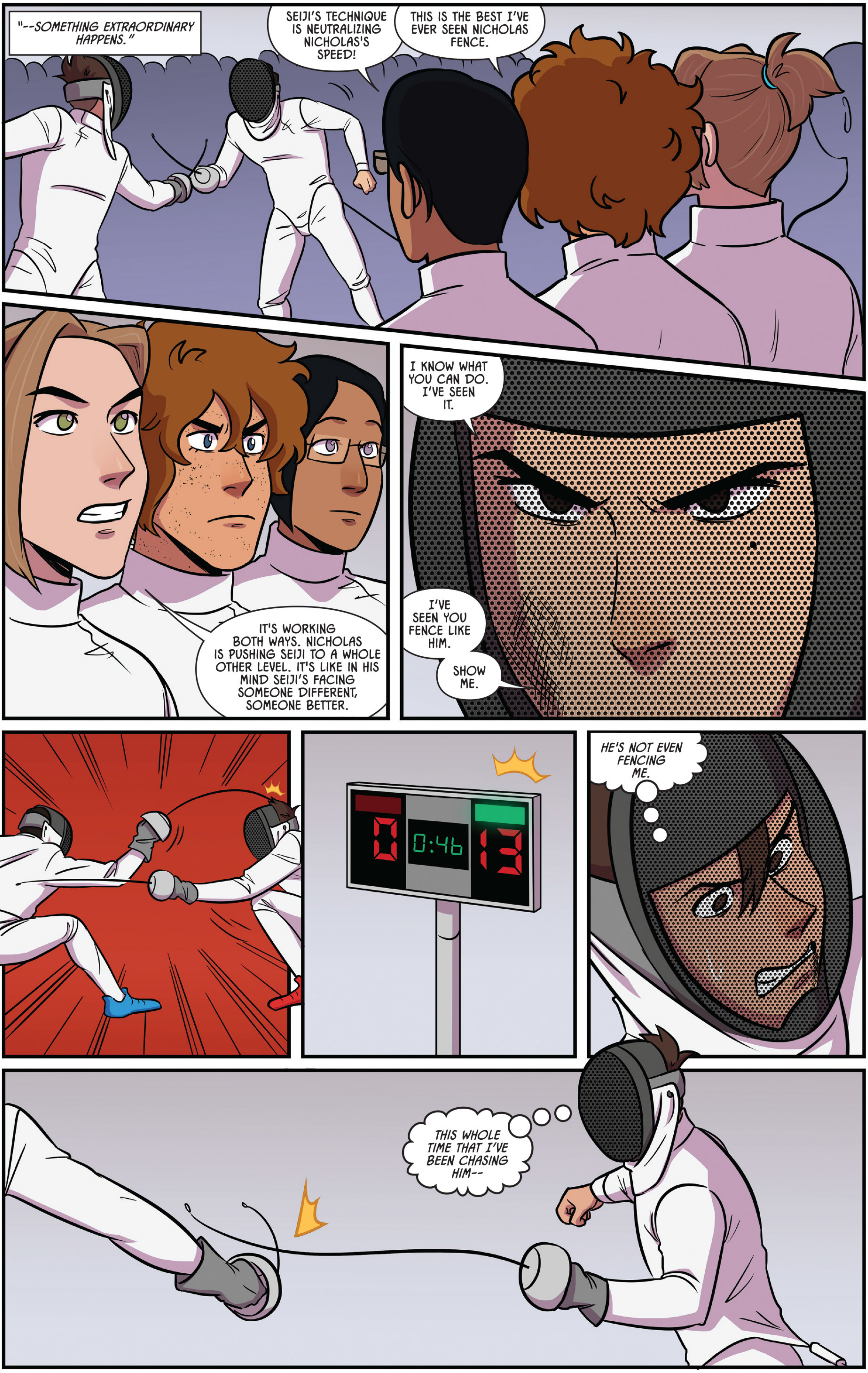

YOU AND I HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS.
Match 24: Nicholas Cox vs Seiji Katayama
THEN WE FINISH IT ON THE STRIP.
MY PLEASURE.
IS IT MY IMAGINATION OR DO NICHOLAS AND SEIJI LOOK KIND OF BEAT UP?
YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THEM IN THE SUPPLY ROOM EARLIER.
THEY HAD A FIGHT?!
IN THE SUPPLY ROOM? CLASSIC.
EN GARDE!
THE FINAL ROUND...
HARVARD AND SEIJI ONLY HAVE ONE LOSS. THEY'RE THE FAVORITES TO MAKE IT.
"NICHOLAS, EUGENE AND AIDEN EACH HAVE TWO LOSSES.
"THIS FINAL ROUND IS CRITICAL. THEY NEED A WIN TO GO THROUGH."
AIDEN ARE YOU SKIPPING YOUR FINAL MATCH?! GO AND GET ON THE STRIP!
I'M IN GROUP 2 THIS ROUND! I DON'T FENCE UNTIL LATER!
QUIET, YOU TWO.
PRÊT.

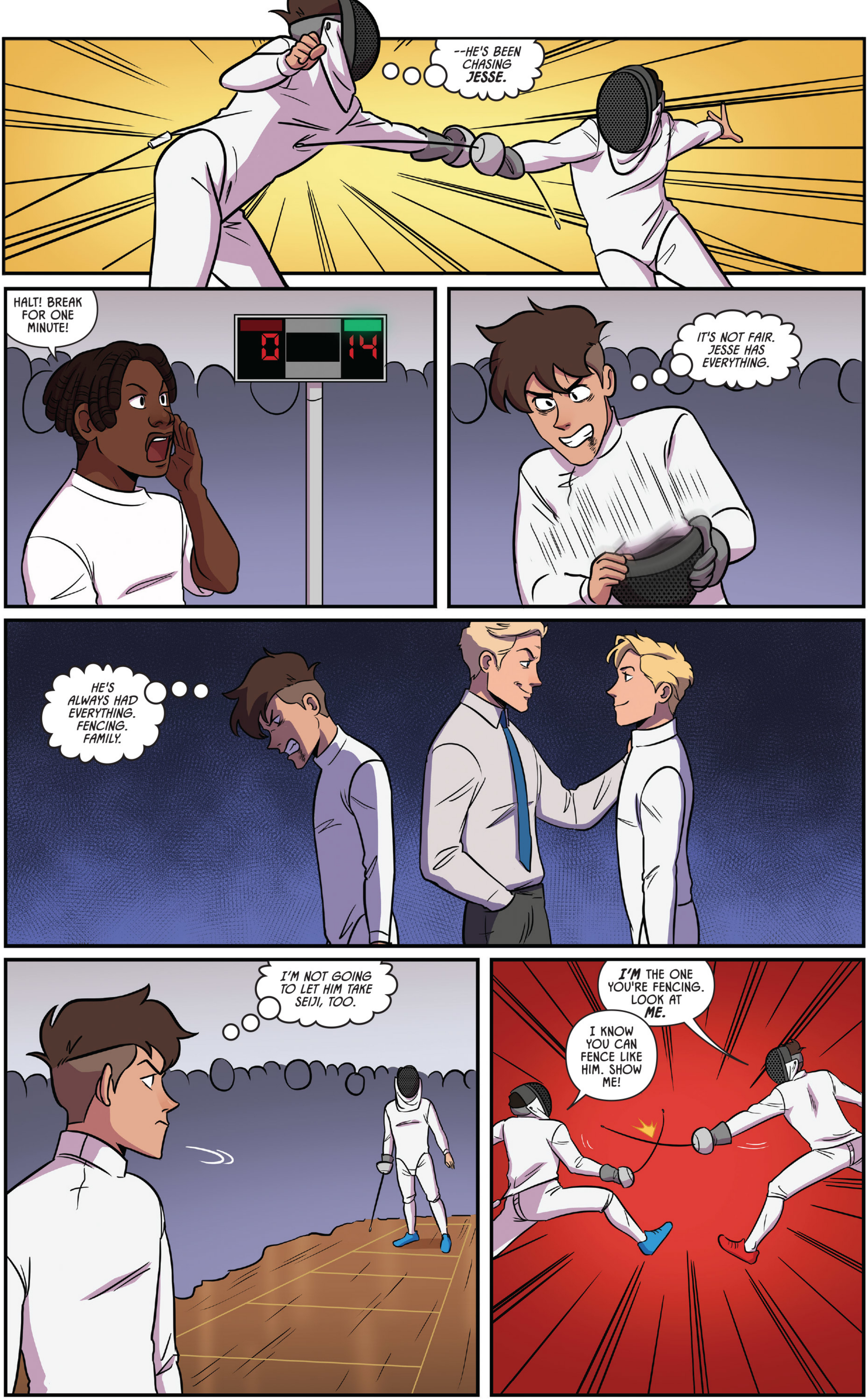

ALLEZ!
GO SEIJI!
THIS IS GONNA BE GOOD!
WATCH FOR SEIJI'S FLÈCHE, IT'S KILLER.
I HEAR THIS IS LIKE A GRUDGE MATCH BETWEEN THEM.
I HEARD THEY WERE FIGHTING.
THE SCHOLARSHIP KID HAS NO CHANCE.
IF HE DOESN'T WIN, HE'S OUT.
GO, NICHOLAS!
FIRST HIT TO SEIJI!
THAT WAS FAST--FASTER THAN NICHOLAS!
YOU HAD HIS SPEED BEFORE--WHERE IS IT?
I TOLD YOU, I'M NOT JESSE.
THAT'S TRUE. JESSE'S GOOD.
0
2:41
2
JESSE'S FAST.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WIN UNLESS YOU SHOW ME--
I TOLD YOU TO STOP TALKING ABOUT HIM!

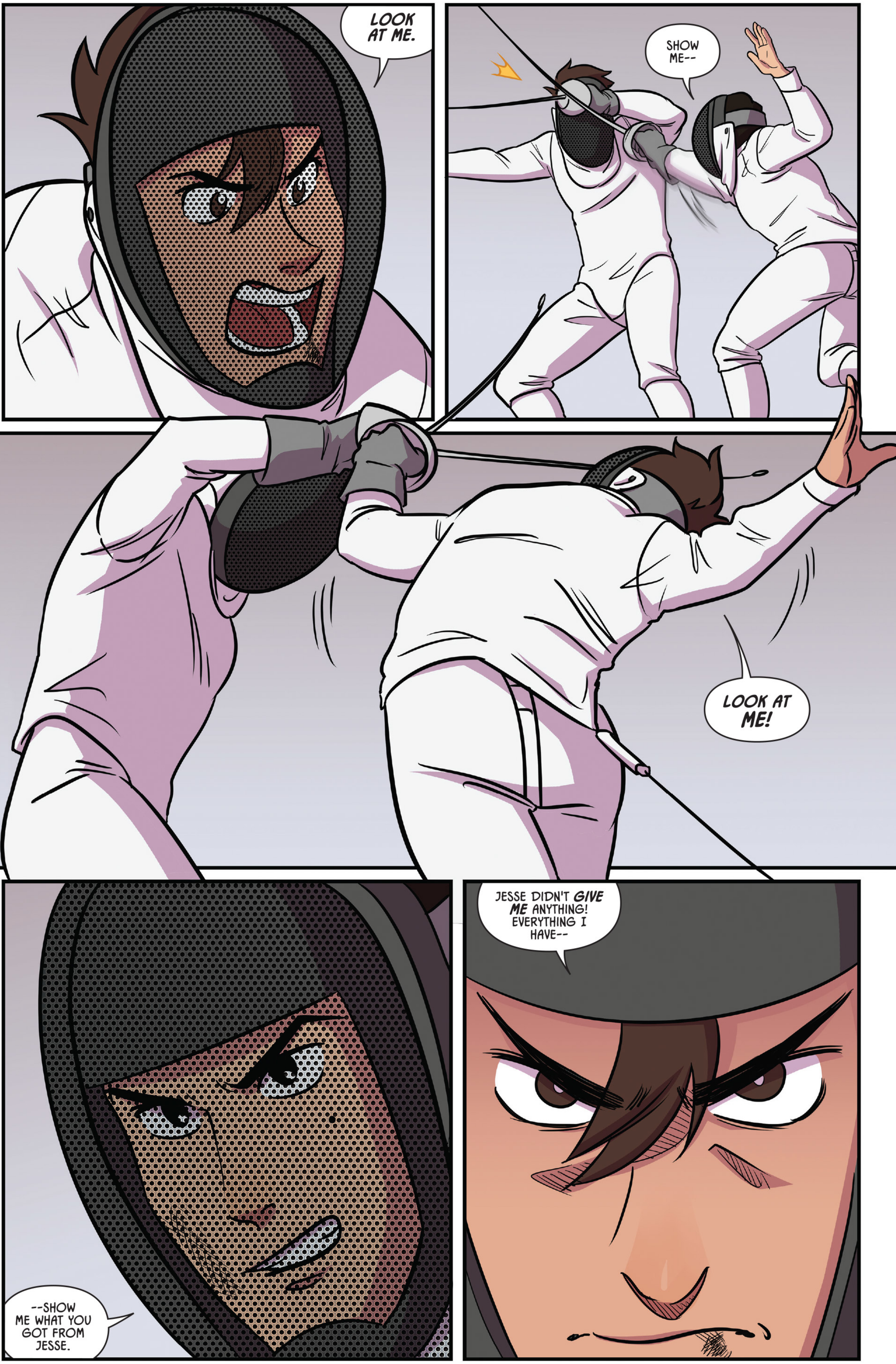

JESSE--
--IT'S LIKE HE'S THE ONE YOU WANT--
--IT'S LIKE HE'S THE ONE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR--
--INSIDE ME.
0
0:22
5
SEIJI IS REALLY KNOCKING HIM AROUND.
IS THIS SOMETHING WE SHOULD STOP?
IT'S NOT AGAINST THE RULES TO HIT HARD.
YES, BUT--
0
6
HALT! BREAK FOR ONE MINUTE!

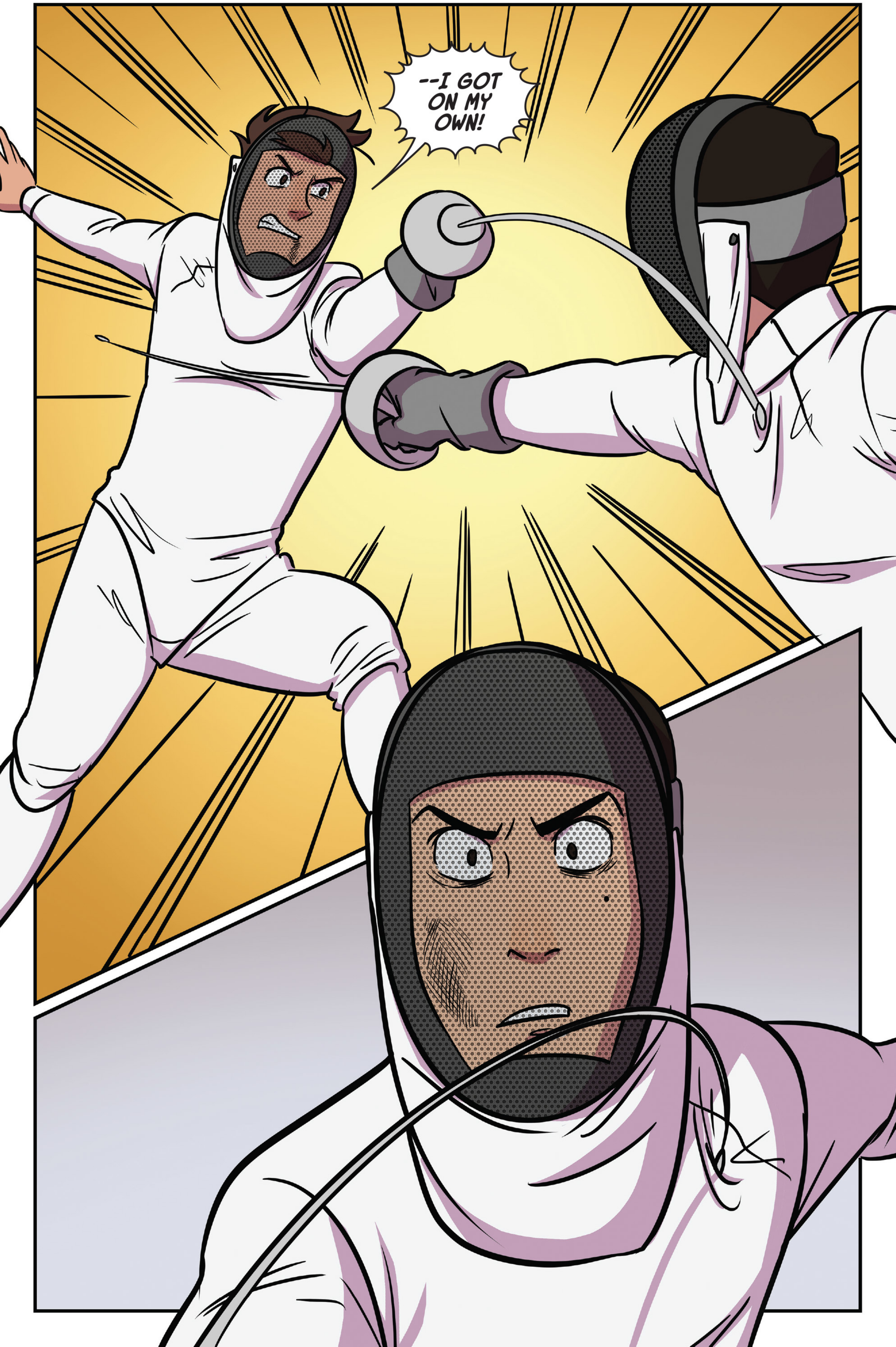

I KNOW YOU'RE FASTER THAN THIS. I'VE SEEN IT. SHOW IT TO ME.
NO. FASTER.
0
2:58
7
FASTER!
0
2:03
9
I BROUGHT NICHOLAS HERE BECAUSE HE HAS RAW TALENT.
HE'S A YOUNG, GIFTED PRODIGY.

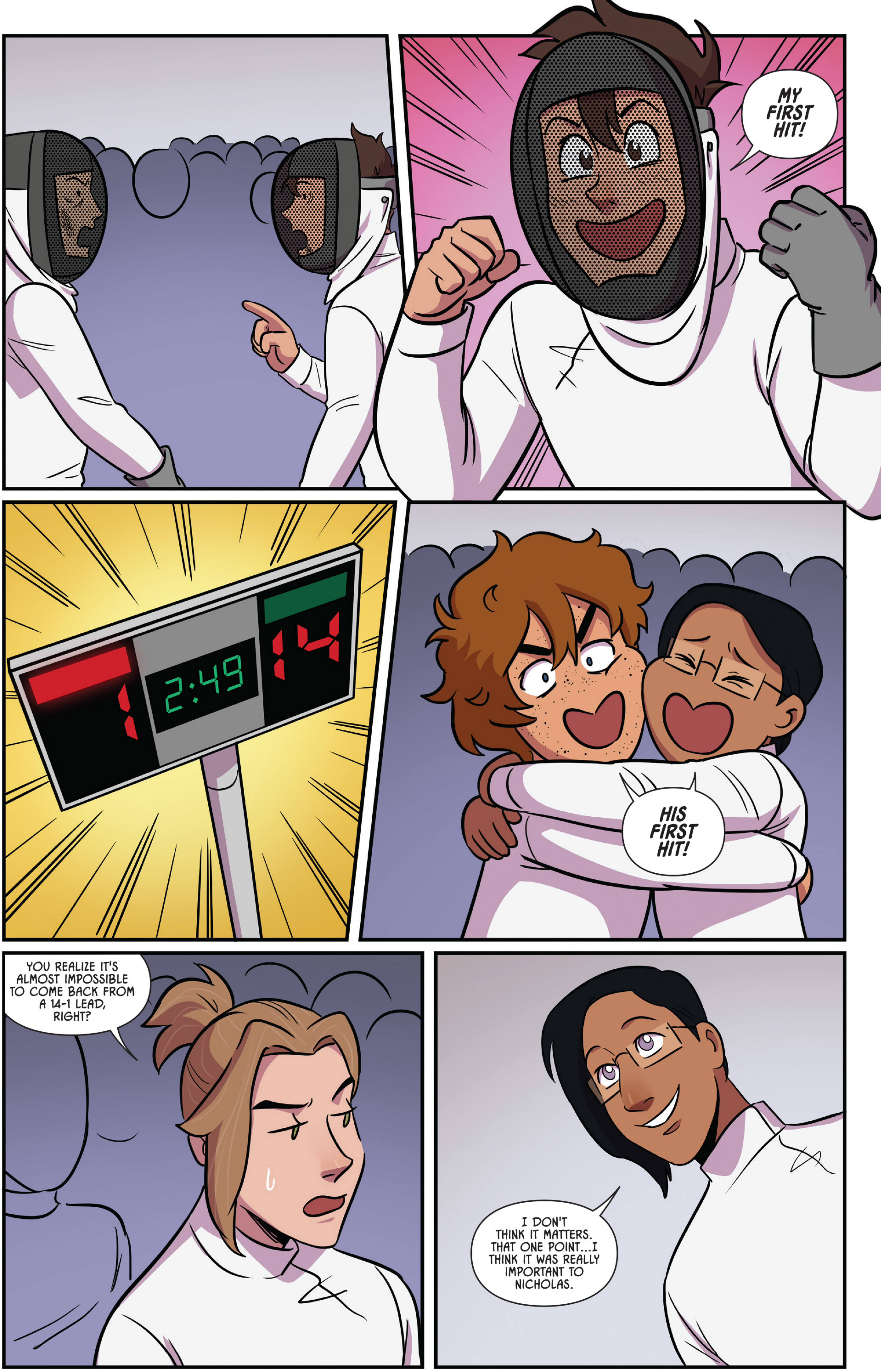

"BUT SEIJI IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU TAKE A PRODIGY AND GIVE HIM FIFTEEN YEARS OF CLASSICAL TRAINING."
THAT SPEED, THAT TECHNIQUE THAT NO MATTER WHAT I DO--
--I CAN'T BREAK THROUGH.
FASTER!
NICHOLAS'S LEFT-HANDEDNESS USUALLY GIVES HIM MORE OF AN ADVANTAGE.
YOU FORGET. JESSE COSTE IS LEFT-HANDED.
SEIJI LOST TO JESSE AT NATIONALS.
EXACTLY. YOU THINK THERE'S ANY CHANCE SEIJI DIDN'T SPEND THE LAST YEAR TRAINING AGAINST LEFT-HANDED OPPONENTS?
IT'S LIKE EACH OF THEM IS PUSHING THE OTHER.
THIS IS THE POTENTIAL I SAW AT REGIONALS.
INDIVIDUALLY, SEIJI AND NICHOLAS EACH HAVE TALENT. BUT WHEN THEY'RE TOGETHER--

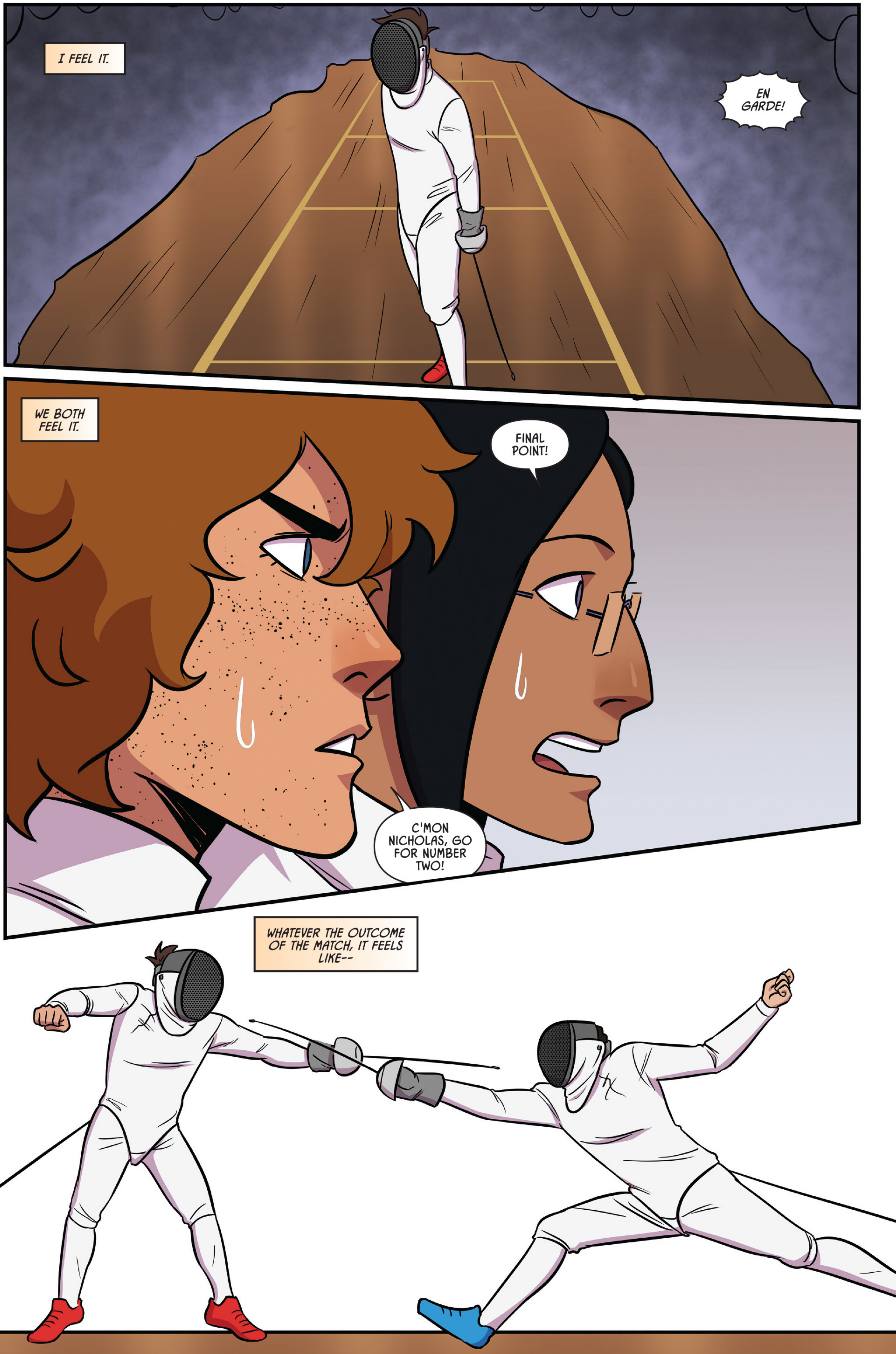

"--SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY HAPPENS."
SEIJI'S TECHNIQUE IS NEUTRALIZING NICHOLAS'S SPEED!
THIS IS THE BEST I'VE EVER SEEN NICHOLAS FENCE.
IT'S WORKING BOTH WAYS. NICHOLAS IS PUSHING SEIJI TO A WHOLE OTHER LEVEL. IT'S LIKE IN HIS MIND SEIJI'S FACING SOMEONE DIFFERENT, SOMEONE BETTER.
I KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO. I'VE SEEN IT.
I'VE SEEN YOU FENCE LIKE HIM.
SHOW ME.
0
0:46
13
HE'S NOT EVEN FENCING ME.
THIS WHOLE TIME THAT I'VE BEEN CHASING HIM--

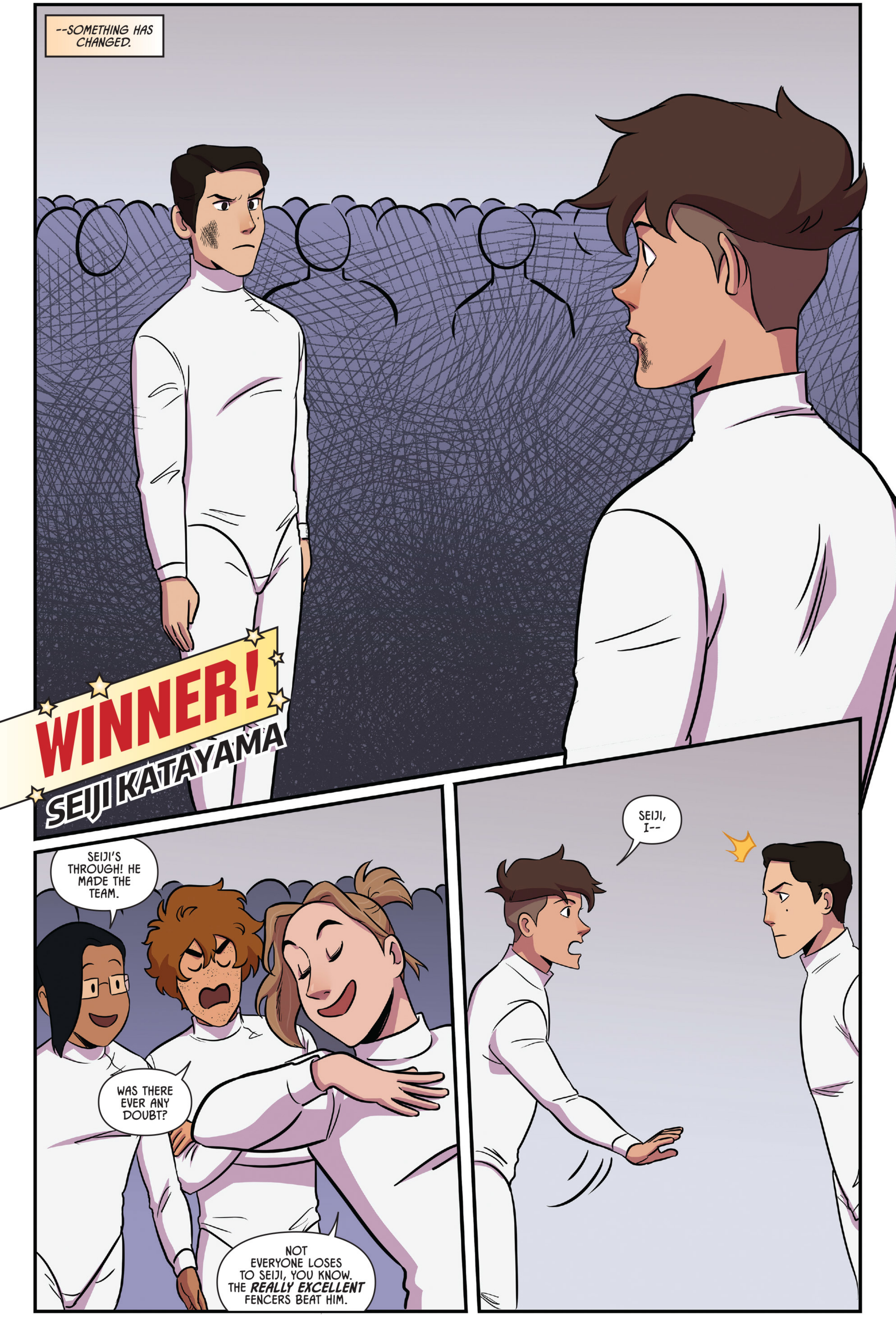

--HE'S BEEN CHASING **JESSE.**
HALT! BREAK FOR ONE MINUTE!
0
14
IT'S NOT FAIR. JESSE HAS EVERYTHING.
HE'S ALWAYS HAD EVERYTHING. FENCING. FAMILY.
I'M NOT GOING TO LET HIM TAKE SEIJI, TOO.
I'M THE ONE YOU'RE FENCING. LOOK AT ***ME.***
I KNOW YOU CAN FENCE LIKE HIM. SHOW ME!

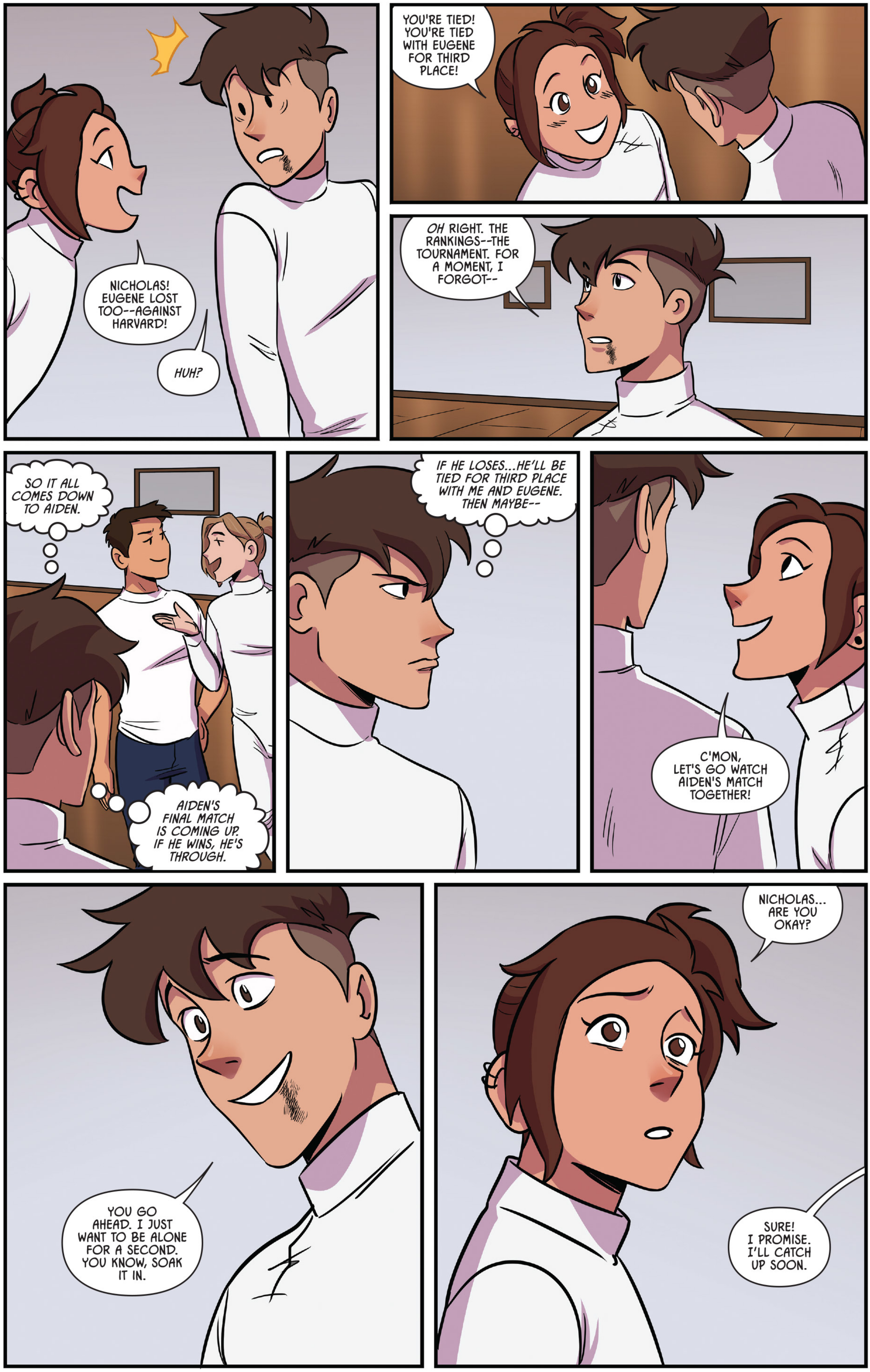

LOOK AT ME.
SHOW ME--
LOOK AT ME!
--SHOW ME WHAT YOU GOT FROM JESSE.
JESSE DIDN'T GIVE ME ANYTHING! EVERYTHING I HAVE--

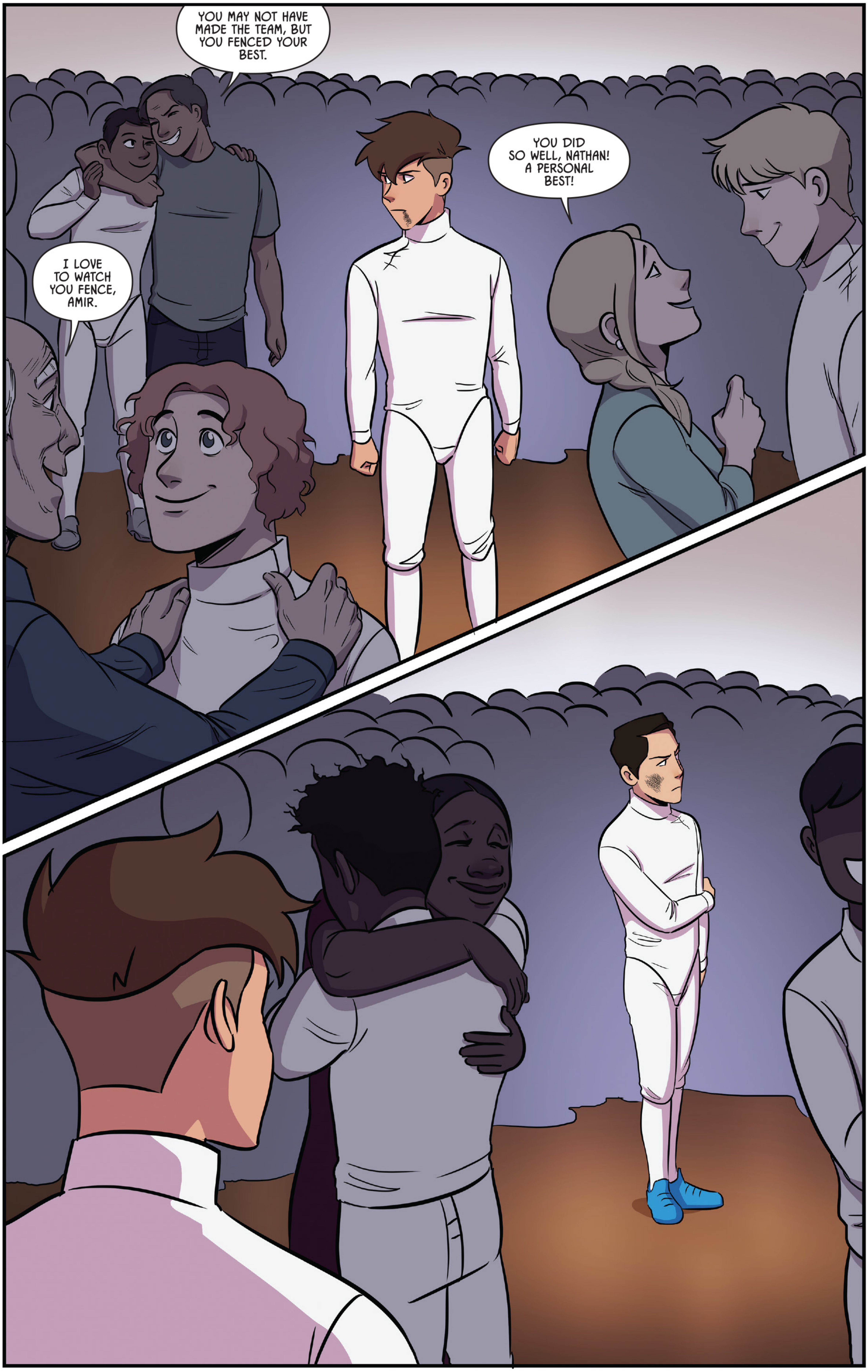

--I GOT ON MY OWN!

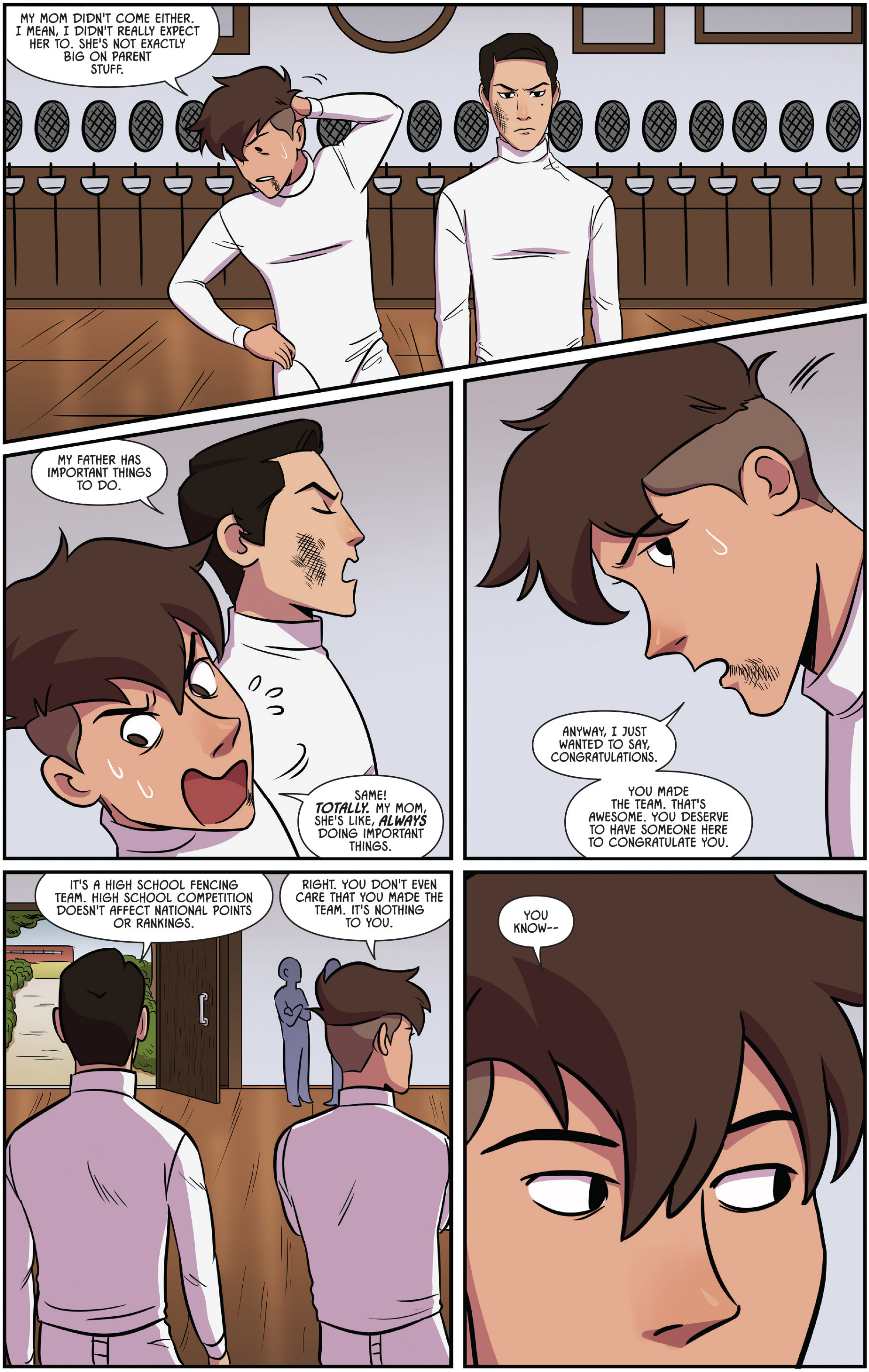

MY FIRST HIT!
1
2:49
14
HIS FIRST HIT!
YOU REALIZE IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO COME BACK FROM A 14-1 LEAD, RIGHT?
I DON'T THINK IT MATTERS. THAT ONE POINT...I THINK IT WAS REALLY IMPORTANT TO NICHOLAS.

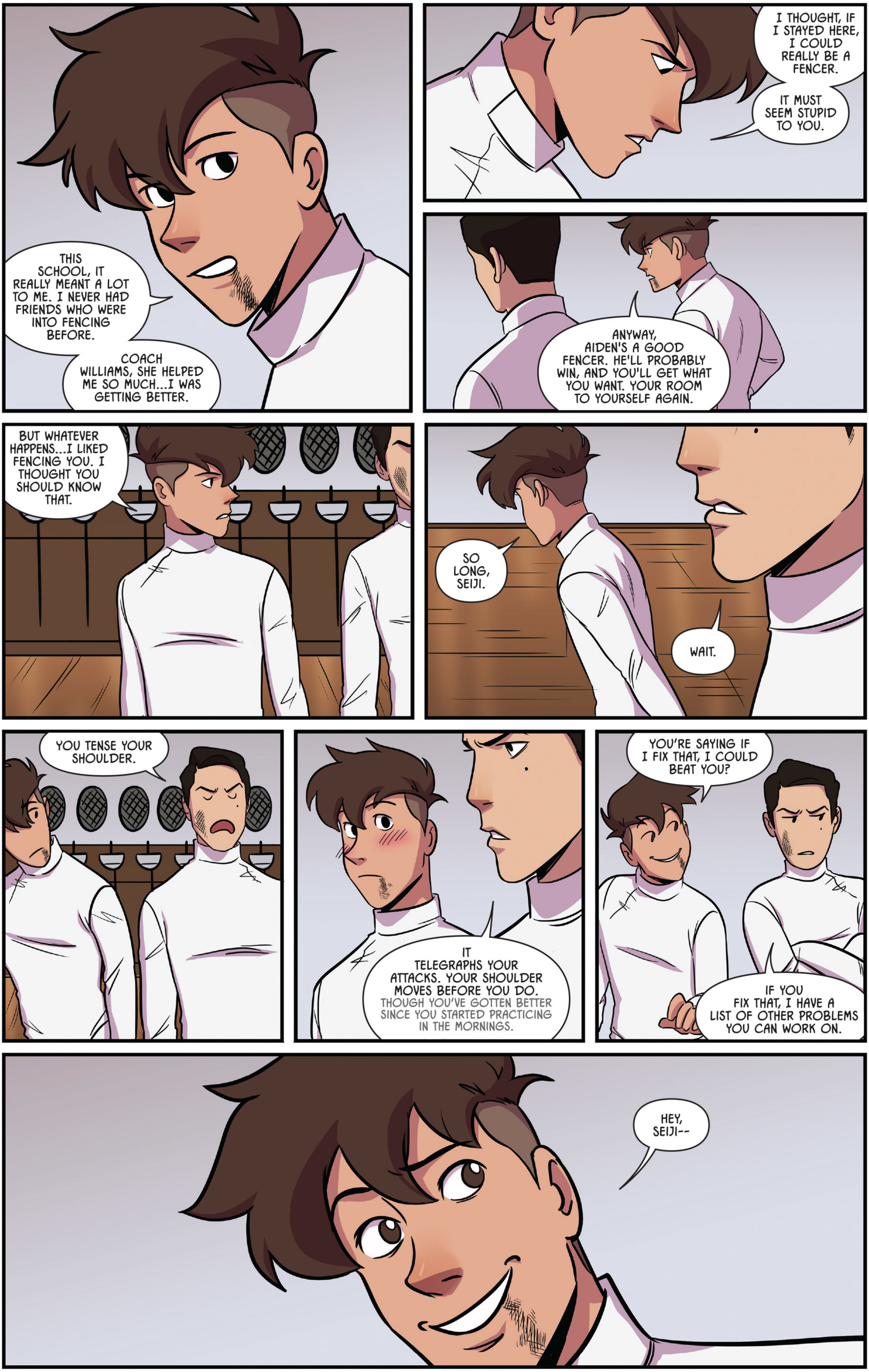

I FEEL IT.
EN GARDE!
WE BOTH FEEL IT.
FINAL POINT!
C'MON NICHOLAS, GO FOR NUMBER TWO!
WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF THE MATCH, IT FEELS LIKE--

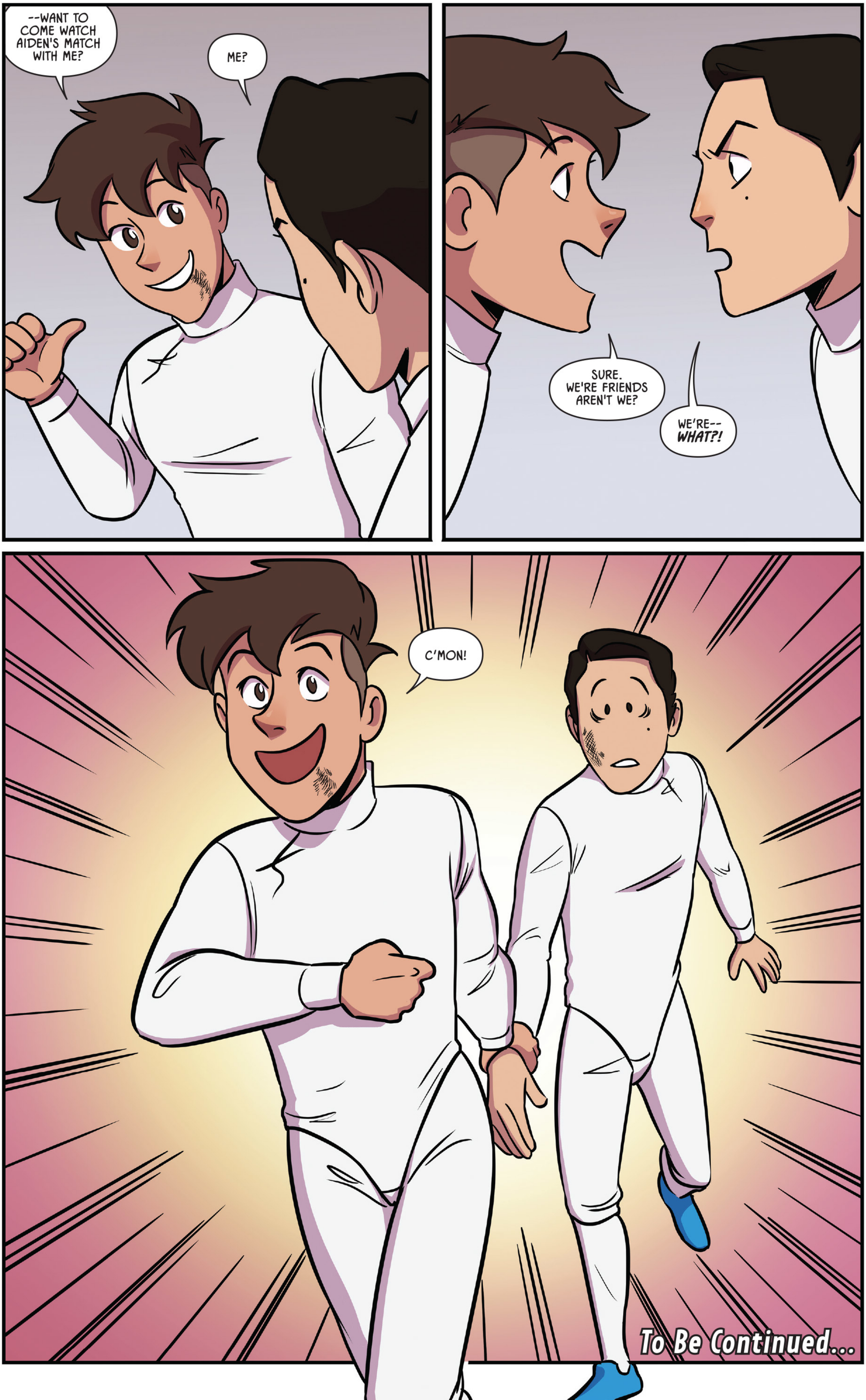

--SOMETHING HAS CHANGED.
WINNER!
SEIJI KATAYAMA
SEIJI'S THROUGH! HE MADE THE TEAM.
WAS THERE EVER ANY DOUBT?
NOT EVERYONE LOSES TO SEIJI, YOU KNOW. THE *REALLY EXCELLENT* FENCERS BEAT HIM.
SEIJI, I--


NICHOLAS! EUGENE LOST TOO--AGAINST HARVARD!
HUH?
YOU'RE TIED! YOU'RE TIED WITH EUGENE FOR THIRD PLACE!
OH RIGHT. THE RANKINGS--THE TOURNAMENT. FOR A MOMENT, I FORGOT--
SO IT ALL COMES DOWN TO AIDEN.
AIDEN'S FINAL MATCH IS COMING UP. IF HE WINS, HE'S THROUGH.
IF HE LOSES...HE'LL BE TIED FOR THIRD PLACE WITH ME AND EUGENE. THEN MAYBE--
C'MON, LET'S GO WATCH AIDEN'S MATCH TOGETHER!
YOU GO AHEAD. I JUST WANT TO BE ALONE FOR A SECOND. YOU KNOW, SOAK IT IN.
NICHOLAS... ARE YOU OKAY?
SURE! I PROMISE. I'LL CATCH UP SOON.


YOU MAY NOT HAVE MADE THE TEAM, BUT YOU FENCED YOUR BEST.
YOU DID SO WELL, NATHAN! A PERSONAL BEST!
I LOVE TO WATCH YOU FENCE, AMIR.


MY MOM DIDN'T COME EITHER. I MEAN, I DIDN'T REALLY EXPECT HER TO. SHE'S NOT EXACTLY BIG ON PARENT STUFF.
MY FATHER HAS IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO.
SAME! **TOTALLY.** MY MOM, SHE'S LIKE, ***ALWAYS*** DOING IMPORTANT THINGS.
ANYWAY, I JUST WANTED TO SAY, CONGRATULATIONS.
YOU MADE THE TEAM. THAT'S AWESOME. YOU DESERVE TO HAVE SOMEONE HERE TO CONGRATULATE YOU.
IT'S A HIGH SCHOOL FENCING TEAM. HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION DOESN'T AFFECT NATIONAL POINTS OR RANKINGS.
RIGHT. YOU DON'T EVEN CARE THAT YOU MADE THE TEAM. IT'S NOTHING TO YOU.
YOU KNOW--


THIS SCHOOL, IT REALLY MEANT A LOT TO ME. I NEVER HAD FRIENDS WHO WERE INTO FENCING BEFORE.
COACH WILLIAMS, SHE HELPED ME SO MUCH...I WAS GETTING BETTER.
I THOUGHT, IF I STAYED HERE, I COULD REALLY BE A FENCER.
IT MUST SEEM STUPID TO YOU.
ANYWAY, AIDEN'S A GOOD FENCER. HE'LL PROBABLY WIN, AND YOU'LL GET WHAT YOU WANT. YOUR ROOM TO YOURSELF AGAIN.
BUT WHATEVER HAPPENS...I LIKED FENCING YOU. I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT.
SO LONG, SEIJI.
WAIT.
YOU TENSE YOUR SHOULDER.
IT TELEGRAPHS YOUR ATTACKS. YOUR SHOULDER MOVES BEFORE YOU DO. THOUGH YOU'VE GOTTEN BETTER SINCE YOU STARTED PRACTICING IN THE MORNINGS.
YOU'RE SAYING IF I FIX THAT, I COULD BEAT YOU?
IF YOU FIX THAT, I HAVE A LIST OF OTHER PROBLEMS YOU CAN WORK ON.
HEY, SEIJI--


--WANT TO COME WATCH AIDEN'S MATCH WITH ME?
ME?
SURE. WE'RE FRIENDS AREN'T WE?
WE'RE-- ***WHAT?!***
C'MON!
To Be Continued...

BOOM! STUDIOS™ DISCOVER YOURS

SEPTEMBER RELEASES AND NEWS

A MAGIC ROLLER COASTER RIDE
WELCOME TO WANDERLAND

EVERY WEEK IN SEPTEMBER
WWE: NXT TAKEOVER

ALSO THIS MONTH
CODA VOL. 1 DISCOVER NOW EDITION
OVER THE GARDEN WALL: HOLLOW TOWN #1
GET TO KNOW BOOM! STUDIOS

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A MAGIC
ROLLER COASTER RIDE

WELCOME TO WANDERLAND

Bellamy Muñoz knows everything there is to know about Wanderland Park. She knows all the shortcuts, and all the secret lore behind Old West Town, Space Age Metropolis, and New Princesston. But when she winds up in the REAL version of Wanderland, with actual princesses and adorable talking woodland creatures, she starts to realize that this magical land isn't much like the park at all, and the characters she thinks she knows aren't quite what she imagined.

Cover by
Maddi Gonzalez

Jackie Ball
Writer

Maddi Gonzalez
Artist

Jackie, how did you come up with the idea for *Welcome to Wanderland?*

Jackie Ball: I work in theme parks, and one of my best friends grew up in Orlando. He spent so much time in the parks, he used to literally do his homework there. There was something I really loved about that; it gave these massive parks such a small-town vibe.

Tell us a little bit about Bellamy and Riot. Who do you relate to more?

Ball: Well, I really used Bel and Riot as avatars to express contrary aspects of my own personality: the passionate, driven snob, with a blind spot for people's feelings; and the "lazy," fun-loving slacker who's terrified of failure. Those were parts of myself that I felt people could relate to, so they were the seeds of who these characters were in the beginning.

Maddi Gonzalez: I find myself drawn to each of them very strongly. I think Bel's fiery passion for yelling on the internet is something I can, uh, very unfortunately relate to.

It sounds like designing Wanderland Park and its magical counterpart would be both challenging and fun! What is your process?

Ball: It's been crazy challenging. There's been a lot from my career in theme parks that informs it. I'll put together some reference mood boards with a written description, and hand it off to Maddi. It's been an interesting challenge trying to create a cohesive "real" world to go along with the park. Not to mention that I don't want to totally ignore the inherent paradox of theme parks: they're these artistic endeavors, designed by people who care SO MUCH, but are also massive profit-makers often owned by corporations. That's not the point of the series, but it is definitely a facet of it.

Gonzalez: Jackie's great about having her inspiration very clear and on-hand. We have a document that she constantly updates with references for what she envisions for each part of the park; I keep sketch pages of concept work for both the real-life park and the magic land! Right now I'm trying to keep the real world more grounded in reality and the park a lot looser and fluid and fun. Hopefully that'll translate as well as I want it to!

We simply HAVE to ask; who came up with Riot's amazing design and outfit?

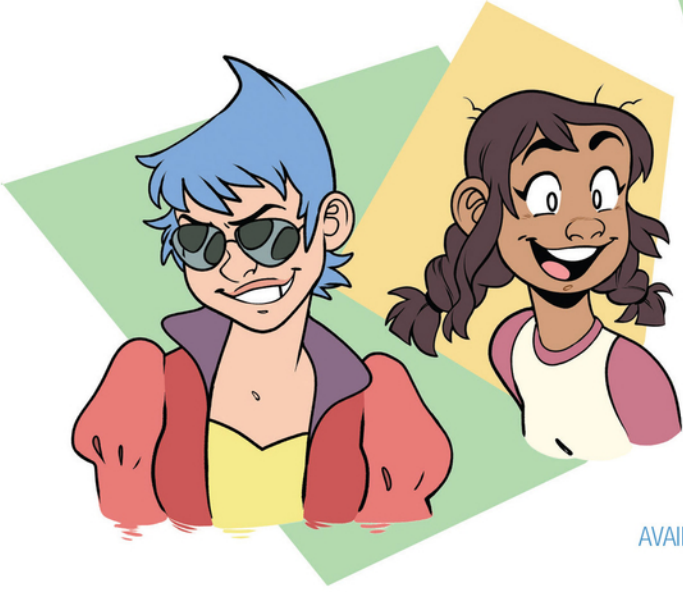
Ball: Maddi. I had some basic thoughts that I wanted her to be beefy and wear a jacket, but her actual designs are all Maddi and I love them to death. The knuckle crown was 100% Maddi's invention, and it's infuriating how perfect it is.

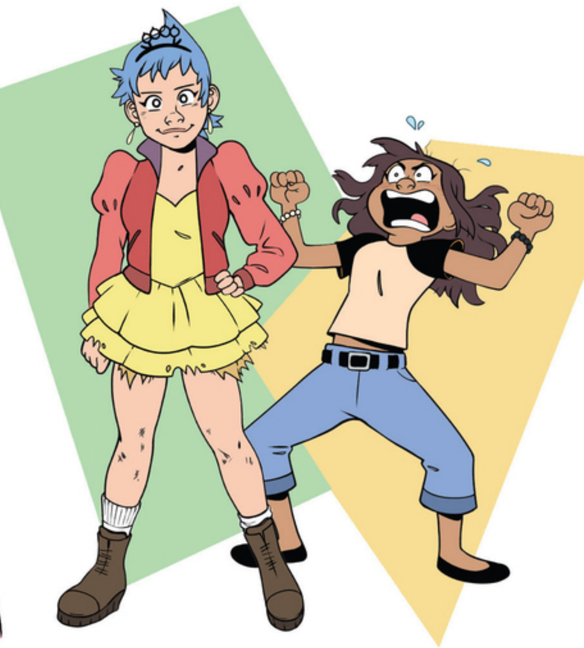
Gonzalez: That was both of us! When I first read the description of Riot's character and story arc, I doodled little versions of Riot all over my sketchbook for days and days. By the time we started nailing down character designs, I had a pretty good idea of what I wanted her to look like. Jackie, too, had a very clear vision of what she wanted for Riot, and I played off of that; we went back and forth until we were both happy. She's inspired by a lot of my favorite Disney princess concept art-- her hair, specifically, is an homage to *Frozen*'s Queen Elsa design back when she was originally going to be a villain; her jacket's an homage to Snow White's dress. Her crown is just cool.

If you could only visit one amusement park for the rest of your life, which one would you chose and why?

Ball: OG Disneyland, for sure. That's my home base and I will always love it. It was the first park I ever went to as a kid, and it had a huge role in building my life in LA.

Gonzalez: Disney World! Is that basic? It's really the only one I've ever been to, but it makes me so giddy. I'm typing this from there! ■





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EVERY WEEK IN SEPTEMBER!

WWE: NXT TAKEOVER

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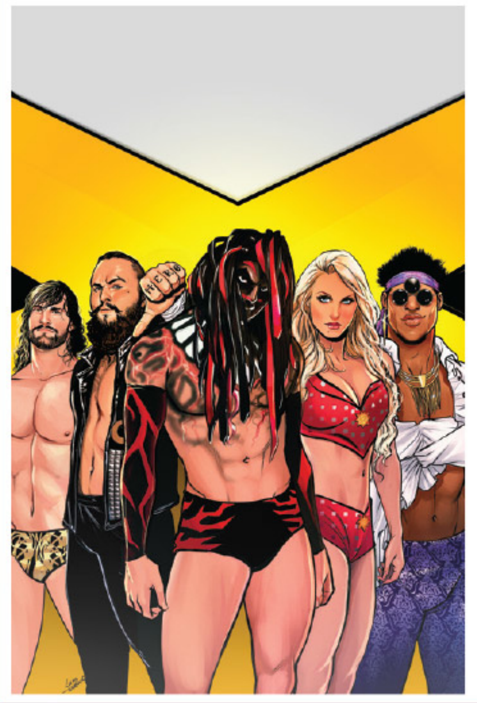


Cover by
Lucas Werneck

WWE: NXT TAKEOVER THE BLUEPRINT #1

In the year 2012, Triple H and Dusty Rhodes head to Florida to begin the newest era of WWE.

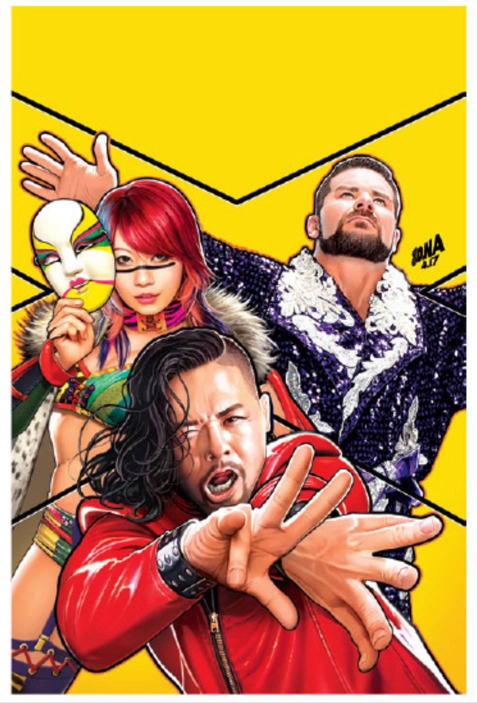
ON SALE **SEPTEMBER 5!**

WWE: NXT TAKEOVER PROVING GROUND #1

Demon King, Finn Balor, enters the NXT Universe and is confronted by Samoa Joe.

ON SALE **SEPTEMBER 12!**

Cover by
Aaron Dana



Cover by
David Nakayama

WWE: NXT TAKEOVER INTO THE FIRE #1

The Empress of Tomorrow, Asuka, begins her rise to the NXT Women's Championship, all while former Champ Paige scouts for new allies.

ON SALE **SEPTEMBER 19!**

WWE: NXT TAKEOVER REDEMPTION #1

Johnny Gargano and Shayna Baszler make the move to NXT and immediately leave their mark.

ON SALE **SEPTEMBER 26!**

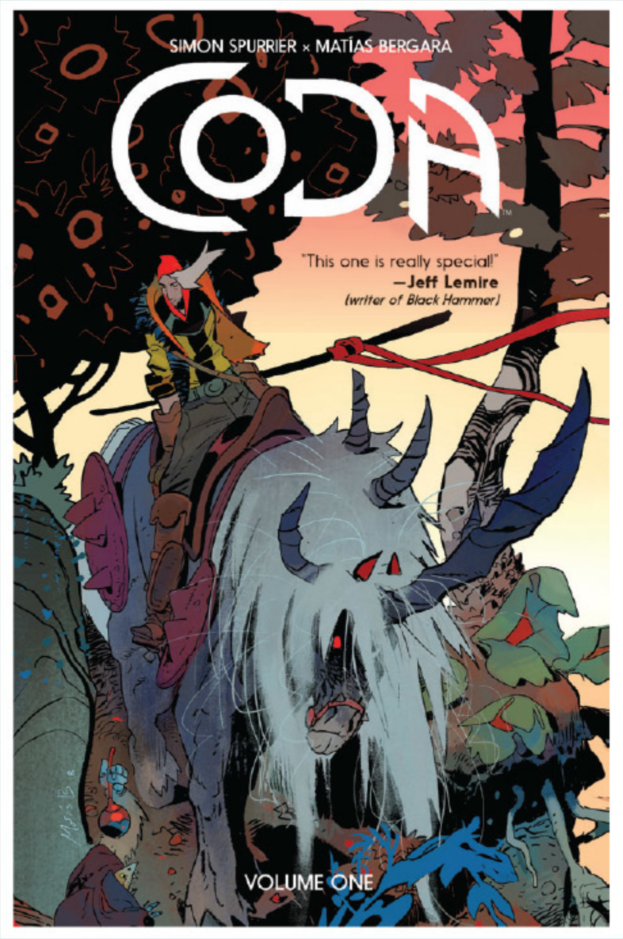
Cover by
Audrey Mok

HIGH FANTASY, LOW LIVES

CODA VOL. 1: DISCOVER NOW EDITION

In the aftermath of an apocalypse which wiped out nearly all magic from a once-wondrous world, an antisocial former bard named Hum seeks a way to save the soul of his wife with nothing but a foul-tempered mutant unicorn and his wits to protect him. Along the way he's drawn into a brutal power struggle which will forever decide who rules the weird wasteland.

CODA VOL. 1: DISCOVER NOW EDITION
IS **EXCLUSIVELY** IN COMIC SHOPS **SEPTEMBER 19!**


SIMON SPURRIER × MATÍAS BERGARA
CODA
"This one is really special!" —Jeff Lemire (writer of Black Hammer)
VOLUME ONE

Cover by
Matías Bergara

RETURN TO THE UNKNOWN!

OVER THE GARDEN WALL: HOLLOW TOWN #1

Join Wirt, Greg, and Beatrice on an all-new adventure in the Unknown as they stumble on a small town inhabited entirely by eerie doll-people. After Greg loses a shoe, it's up to Wirt to earn money for a new pair, leading him to babysit some doll-children that may cause Wirt to stay in town forever…

OVER THE GARDEN WALL: HOLLOW TOWN #1
IS IN COMIC SHOPS **SEPTEMBER 19!**

GET TO KNOW **BOOM! STUDIOS**

STEPHANIE HOCUTT

SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR

Currently Watching: *My Hero Academia*, rewatching *Avatar: The Last Airbender*

Favorite Item on Desk: My collection of Trunks figures from *Dragon Ball Z*

If I won the lottery I'd spend the money on: A bigger place to store all my collectibles and succulents...and then I'd get MORE collectibles and succulents!

Hobbies: Video games, sewing, watching all the anime, playing ukulele

Food I'd Wrestle a Bear for: Jalapeño Kettle Brand Potato Chips!

Secret talent: There was a semester in my sixth grade gym where my class learned to juggle, and I'm still pretty good at it!

Hometown: Newport News, Virginia

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TEN

BOOM! BOX™